

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 EUR-12 NEA-11 IO-14 ISO-00 SIG-03
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R 100046Z JUN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY LISBON
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USICA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE
USINT HAVANA
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY BANJUL
AMCONSUL BUKAVU
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY BANGUI
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
AMEMBASSY KIGALI
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION USNATO
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AMEMBASSY MASERU
AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY VICTORIA
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

AMEMBASSY PRAIA
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN

SUBJECT:DEPARTMENT OF STATE PRESS BRIEFING, JUNE 9, 1978

FOLLOWING IS AN UNOFFICIAL, UNCORRECTED EXCERPT FROM THE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE PRESS BRIEFING. IF NECESSARY OFFICIAL
VERSION WILL FOLLOW.

Q: NYERERE SAYS, "PRESIDENT CARTER IS SAYING HE DOES NOT
CARE ABOUT ONE-MAN/ONE-VOTE IN AFRICA." MY QUESTION,
JOHN, IS WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME THAT TANZANIANS VOTED, AND
HAVE THEY EVER HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO VOTE FOR ANYBODY BUT
NYERERE?

A: I THINK YOU OUGHT TO ASK THE TANZANIAN GOVERNMENT THAT
QUESTION.
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Q: WHAT WAS THE SECRETARY'S REACTION TO NYERERE'S STATE-
MENT ABOUT "AN HYSTERICAL VOICE" ABOUT AFRICA BEING TAKEN
OVER BY CUBA?

A: LET ME JUST SAY, LES, AND ANY OF THE REST OF YOU WHO
ARE INTERESTED, WE REGRET THAT PRESIDENT NYERERE HAS
APPARENTLY MISINTERPRETED OUR ACTIONS AND GOALS IN AFRICA.
CERTAINLY, THE UNITED STATES HAS NO DESIRE TO ESTABLISH
ZONES OF INFLUENCE OR IMPOSE WESTERN DOMINATION ON THAT
CONTINENT. THE PRESIDENT MADE THAT CLEAR, I THINK,
A COUPLE OF DAYS AGO AT ANNAPOLIS. I THINK THAT'S ALL
I WANT TO SAY TO THAT.

Q: JUST ON THAT ONE POINT, THE LAST ONE: NYERERE SAYS
THAT "ANY ALL-AFRICAN MILITARY FORCE SHOULD BE FORMED
BY THE OAU AND NOT BY THE WESTERN POWERS." MY QUESTION
IS, DOES THE STATE DEPARTMENT KNOW OF ANY INSTANCE IN
THE HISTORY OF THE OAU WHEN THIS HAS EVER BEEN DONE?

A: LES, I DON'T KNOW. I'M NOT EXPERIENCED IN THOSE
PARTICULAR MATTERS, LES. THAT'S SOMETHING THAT I WOULD

HAVE TO TRY TO LOOK UP FOR YOU, WITHOUT A PROMISE.

Q: DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING THERE AT ALL ON THE REPORTED
CUBAN-ANGOLAN OFFENSIVE AGAINST UNITA?

A: NO, BUT INFORMATION COMING TO US FROM THAT PARTICULAR
PART OF AFRICA, AS YOU KNOW, IS SOMETIMES VERY SKETCHY.

Q: SOMETIMES IT'S VERY GOOD.

A: SOMETIMES IT'S NOT BAD, YES, BUT I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING
FOR YOU ON IT.

Q: AMBASSADOR YOUNG SAID YESTERDAY THE KATANGAN INVASION
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OF SHABA PROVINCE FOLLOWED INSTANCES IN WHICH ZAIRIAN
FORCES CROSSED OVER INTO ANGOLAN TERRITORY. I BELIEVE
SOMEBODY FROM THAT PODIUM TOOK THAT QUESTION ABOUT A WEEK
OR MORE AGO.

A: THE ANSWER IS THAT OVER A LONG PERIOD OF TIME THERE
HAVE BEEN MANY REPORTS OF CROSS-BORDER INCURSIONS IN BOTH
DIRECTIONS, AND WE ASSUME THAT AT LEAST SOME OF THOSE RE-
PORTS HAVE A FOUNDATION IN FACT. IN THIS CONNECTION, WE
HAVE WORKED THROUGH THE GOVERNMENT OF ZAIRE AND OTHER
AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS TO ENCOURAGE THE RESOLUTION OF THESE
PROBLEMS BETWEEN ZAIRE AND ANGOLA IN A NEGOTIATED SETTLE-
MENT.

Q: JOHN, DO YOU KNOW IF THERE HAVE BEEN RAIDS, FOR EXAMPLE,
IN THE LAST YEAR FROM ZAIRE INTO ANGOLA?

A: I DON'T KNOW WITHIN THE LAST YEAR, NO. I SAID OVER A
LONG PERIOD OF TIME THERE HAVE BEEN REPORTS IN BOTH
DIRECTIONS.

Q: CAN YOU TAKE THAT QUESTION?

A: YES.

Q: AND WHETHER THERE WERE ZAIRIANS GOING IN OR ANGOLANS
GOING TO ZAIRE WHO WERE FIGHTING AGAINST.....GOVERNMENT?

A: AGAIN, I WILL DO WHAT I CAN. I DON'T PROMISE THAT I'LL
BE ABLE TO GIVE YOU MUCH INFORMATION ON IT.

Q: ON THE SWAPO REJECTION OF THE WESTERN PLAN, DO YOU
HAVE A RESPONSE TO THAT?
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A: I THINK FIRST OF ALL, IT'S BEEN INDICATED IN REPORTS ABOUT SWAPO'S INTENTIONS THAT THEY INTEND TO REJECT THE

WESTERN FIVE'S PROPOSAL. I WOULD FIRST POINT OUT THAT THIS HAS NOT, IN FACT, HAPPENED AND WE HOPE THAT IT WILL NOT HAPPEN: AND WE HOPE THAT SWAPO WILL ACCEPT THE WESTERN

FIVE'S PROPOSAL WHICH WE BELIEVE PROVIDES THE BASIS FOR A PEACEFUL INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTABLE TRANSITION TO INDEPENDENCE IN NAMIBIA. I WOULD JUST LIKE TO TACK ONTO THAT THE OBSERVATION THAT THAT WESTERN FIVE PROPOSAL PROVIDES FOR SWAPO TO FREELY AND FULLY PARTICIPATE IN THE POLITICAL PROCESS IN NAMIBIA.

Q: WHERE IS AMBASSADOR MCHENRY?

A: I DON'T KNOW.

Q: IS HE IN AFRICA?

A: I'LL JUST HAVE TO FIND OUT. I DON'T KNOW. VANCE

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